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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE • WASHINGTON, D.C.

Vol. 2, No. 64 August 10, 1966

Defense Suggests Changes In Reserve Enlistment Law

Army's active force expansion and subsequent absorption of training capacity has caused problems for the Reserve Enlistment Program (REP) when it comes to enlisting non-prior servicemen.

One of them is not a lagging enlistment rate, Secretary of Army Stanley Resor told a House Armed Forces Subcommittee Aug. 4 while substituting for the injured Deputy Defense Secretary Cyrus Vance.

Noting that higher draft calls had stimulated greater REP enlistments and more REPs in need of training, Mr. Resor said, "The resulting backlog of REPs awaiting training amounted to about 133,000 as of June 30."

Law requires that non-prior service personnel who enlist under this program perform an initial period of active duty for training of not less than four months.

"We are enlisting REPs whom we cannot train immediately," he said, noting that such individuals are of little use on mobilization, that their presence tends to downgrade unit readiness and that the individuals involved are exempt from the draft.

The Army Secretary asked the subcommittee to consider changing the law, principally to order REPs to active duty for training within 120 days.

He further recommended, "When it is determined that adequate spaces cannot be made available to accommodate individuals within the 120 day period, enlistments may be suspended temporarily."

High-Ranking Defense Officials Attend Special Management Course

More than 50 admirals, generals and government officials of comparable grade underwent a special one-week course in management at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif., Aug. 1.

The list of students also included two flag officers of the West German armed forces.

The one-week session was a presentation of the philosophy of present management methods employed by the Department of Defense.

The same course was presented to Canadian defense officials in June and will be presented in Europe later this year.

THIRD PURPLE HEART—Brig. Gen. Lowell E. English, USMC, assistant commander, 3rd Marine Div., presents Maj. John W. Watson, (left) and Lt.Col. Van D. Bell, 1st Bn., First Marine Regiment's executive officer and commanding officer respectively, with their third Purple Heart award in ceremonies 12 miles southeast of Da Nang, RVN.

Gov't. Purchase of Trailers Owned By U.S. Personnel in France Sought

Deputy Defense Secretary Cyrus Vance has asked a Senate Military Appropriation subcommittee to allow the government to buy house trailers from military and civilian personnel stationed in France.

In a letter to Senator Richard B. Russell, Mr. Vance stressed that the resale market of house trailers will disappear in France as relocation progresses and that no prospects exist for personnel to obtain a fair market price on the local economy.

Automobiles and household furnishings, he noted, are already covered by legislation.

The Deputy Defense Secretary asked for similar legislative relief to alleviate hardships by authorizing DOD to acquire these trailers at fair market prices.

In the same letter, Mr. Vance called for the Senate group to restore funds for two guided missile destroyers and for all management studies cut from the House version of the Defense Appropriation Bill.

He also requested authority to program Army reserve components on an "end" rather than "average" strength to avoid complicating training programs.

Washington Memos

RESERVE REORGANIZATION RECOMMENDED despite Southeast Asia operations in DOD statement to Congress on grounds "the increase in usable combat power which would result would put us in a better position in relation to Vietnam and other commitments." DOD then asked for a revision in Reserve Forces Bill (H.R. 16435) "so as to permit the reorganization by eliminating the necessity to maintain units in both the National Guard and Reserves."

PRESIDENT JOHNSON CONGRATULATED two Air Force pilots recently, who as members of YF-12A test force, established three absolute and six jet class world records in one day. Pilots are Colonel Robert L. Stephens and Lieutenant Colonel Walter F. Daniel. New records were for aircraft speed on a straight course traveling more than 2,000 miles per hour and on closed course at 1,688 mph. Records have been recognized by FAI, headquartered in Paris, and by NAA in Washington. Records were formerly held by Soviet Union.

NUMEROUS NATO COUNTRIES have requested training of electronic warfare officers and enlisted repairmen. In line with this Army has scheduled courses at Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., primarily for foreign students. Officers' course is 10 weeks and the enlisted course is 23 weeks.

A THIRD TRAINING BRIGADE area at Ft. Polk, La., has been dedicated to PFC. Milton L. Olive III, who was posthumously awarded Medal of Honor for heroism in Republic of Vietnam. Field in area where PFC. Olive received advanced infantry training now has marker bearing hero's photo, likeness of Medal of Honor and citation. Permanent plaque will be installed later.

CONTRACT TO DEVELOP automatic test and readiness equipment for Navy's Poseidon missile has been awarded. Poseidon is being developed to supplement Navy's fleet of nuclear-powered submarine weapons systems, and will have at least twice accuracy and payload of Polaris. Mixed force of both missile types is planned for 1970s.

COMBAT PREPAREDNESS COURSE, initiated by Air Force last May, is being expanded to accommodate 100 students weekly. Conducted by Air Training Command, Lackland AFB, Tex., course trains officers and airmen in installation security; defensive employment of troops; fundamentals of personal defense; first aid; and use of various weapons, including M-16 rifle, 60mm mortar, and M-60 (7.62 caliber) machine gun. Air Policemen ordered to Southeast Asia receive intensive training in combat preparedness to insure effective air base defenses.

SALES OF SERIES E and H Savings Bonds during July represented 6 percent increase over $388 million sold in the same month last year. July was fifth consecutive month to show impressive gains over 1965. E Bond sales were highest for any July since 1949, while combined sales of E and H Bonds were highest for that month since 1963.

FORTY-EIGHT SURFACE-to-air missile (SAM) batteries of Army Air Defense Command (ARADCOM) have been named winners of "E" awards for excellence in combat proficiency. Winners number 27 active Army and 21 Army National Guard units located in 19 city areas across the nation. This was first presentation of "E" awards within ARADCOM units.

AIR FORCE'S SEA Survival School Training at Langley AFB, Va., is paying big dividends for graduates assigned to Southeast Asia. Through 1965, 21 school graduates had to bail out or ditch in Southeast Asia. All have survived. The school graduated its 5,000th student on June 10.

U.S. ARMY HOSPITAL at Ft. Gordon, Ga., has been designated as specialized hospital. Depending on staffing capability, 600 specialty beds will be added to 300 beds now in use. When hospital becomes fully operative in its specialty features, functions will be similar to facilities at seven general hospitals under jurisdiction of Army Surgeon General. Hospital at Ft. Gordon will continue under supervision of U.S. Continental Army Command, with its specialty role under Army Surgeon General.

REAR ADMIRAL CHEN YUAN JUN, Commander of Republic of China Third Naval District, paid visit to Capt. William L. Bennett, USN, Commanding Officer, attack cargo ship USS WINSTON, in ChiLung, Taiwan. WINSTON was visiting Taiwan after providing amphibious support in RVN. Occasion was first visit of foreign admiral to WINSTON.

MILITARY SHOOTERS, WITH record-breaking performances in four events, beat Russia and brought world shooting championship back to U.S. for first time in 12 years. Composing about 90 percent of U.S. team, military shooters won, as individuals and team members, all 17 U.S. gold medals. Russia won 10 titles and remaining 10 medals were divided among 50 other competing nations.

TOP-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES from Air Force and aerospace industry will attend second annual AF Contractor Cost Reduction Workshop Awards Ceremony in Los Angeles, August 17-18. Industry employees who made significant contributions to DOD Cost Reduction during FY66 will be honored. Workshop portion of affair is devoted to panel discussions aimed at improved accomplishments.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

Published semi-weekly by Press Division Armed Forces News Bureau, 1117 No. 19th St., Arlington, Va. 22209, a unified activity of the Directorate for Armed Forces Information and Education, OASD(M). This publication contains official information, news and policy, direct from Washington authorized sources. Reproduction of content is authorized. Suggested dateline for materials used is WASHINGTON (AFNB).

DOD Spokesman Outlines Reserve Forces Objectives

Defense Department objective for all Reserve Forces is "to maximize their contribution to national defense."

Secretary of Army Stanley Resor reading from the prepared statement of Deputy Defense Secretary Cyrus Vance, went on to tell members of a House Armed Services Subcommittee Aug. 4 it is clear we have the same common objective.

"If reserve forces are to make this contribution," he said, "they should be composed of units needed to meet military requirements."

He followed with these points:

- "in these units there should be a high proportion of fully trained men;
- backing up these units there should be a reservoir of trained manpower upon which they can draw to bring their units to full strength in event of mobilization;
- there should be sufficient equipment in the hands of units to permit adequate training, and further equipment available in inventory to equip the units when mobilized."

Four U.S. Combat Units Receive Defense Transportation Awards

National Defense Transportation Association will honor four U. S. combat units in RVN for unusual and outstanding service in military transportation and logistics, during a Sept. 20 ceremony in Dallas.

The association's new Defense Transportation Award will be presented to representatives of Army's 1099th Transportation Company (Medium Boat); Navy's Naval Support Activity, Da Nang; Air Force's Eighth Aerial Port Squadron; and Marine Corps' Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152.

Navy Construction Official Tells Of Problems in Vietnamese Program

The United States construction program in the Republic of Vietnam is in a constant state of flux and ever-changing requirements of tactical commanders keep construction planners off-balance. Despite these problems, however, improvements are constantly being made as experience is gained.

These remarks were made by RAdm. A. C. Husband, USN, Commander of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, DOD construction agent for Southeast Asia. The admiral had just returned from a five-day tour of Vietnam construction sites.

LEGION OF MERIT—MG Kenneth G. Wickham, USA, receives the second oak leaf cluster to the Legion of Merit from LTG Ben Harrell, CG, U.S. Army Combat Developments Command (USACDC). Gen. Wickham, who assumed duties as The Adjutant General of the Army Aug. 1, was formerly CG, USACDC Combat Service Support Group, Ft. Lee, Va. He was cited for his part in developing and implementing COSTAR and TASTA concepts for Army.

President Johnson Issues UN Day Proclamation

President Johnson has proclaimed Oct. 24 as United Nations Day.

In his proclamation President Johnson said, "The UN has been effective in containing local disputes which, if unchecked, could have led to general war."

The President noted that the UN has proved to be a place where constructive dialogues between rich and poor nations can lead to better understanding in today's world, and the promise of a fuller life for future generations.

"Because we know that institutions, like men, must remain ever ready to cope with recurring crises," President Johnson said, "we will continue to do our share in keeping the UN's operations relevant to its problems, realistic in approach, and responsible in action."

Peruvian Defense Officials Visit U.S.

Brig. Gen. Ernesto Montagne Sanchez, Commandant, Command and General Staff College of Peru, the staff and faculty of the college and 47 members of the student body are in the United States touring defense installations.

Stops include: U.S. Military Academy; Ft. Benning, Ga.; Ft. Bragg, N.C.; Ft. Bliss, Tex.; Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.; Ft. Sill, Okla., and Washington, D.C The group is scheduled to return to Peru Aug 28.

October Draft Call Highest Since 1953

Defense Department has requested Selective Service System to provide Armed Forces Induction Stations with 46,200 men in October—the highest since 53,000 were requested in May 1953.

At the same time, DOD requested 6,000 additional men for September, making a total of 37,300.

The September revision results from a reduction in estimated Army enlistments for the month, based on the most recent enlistment data.

All inductees in both the September and October draft calls will be assigned to the Army.

The previous high draft call since the Vietnam buildup was in May when 40,600 men were requested.

'Tropic Lightning' Troops Thanked by RVN Villagers

Tan An Hoi villagers have sent letters of thanks to members of Army's 25th "Tropic Lightning" Infantry Division for aid received from division's Helping Hand civic action program.

Program was created before the majority of the division departed Hawaii for RVN. People of Hawaii donated more than 350 tons of clothing and articles and more than $5,500.

Naval Academy Gets New Advisory Board

The Secretary of the Navy has approved a plan establishing an Academic Board of Advisors to the Superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy.

The Board will advise the Superintendent on academic affairs. Academy officials had been considering such a board for some time and its need was underscored by recent findings of the Middle States Accreditation Committee. Air Force established a similar board in 1965.

SAVED BY JOLLY GREEN GIANT —Capt. James R. Mitchell, USAF, an F-105 Thunderchief pilot, was shot down while on his 10th strike mission over North Vietnam. Soon after ejecting from his craft, he was picked up by an Air Force HH-3 "Jolly Green Giant" rescue helicopter from the Da Nang air base.

AF Expands Helicopter Pilot Training Program

Air Force is expanding helicopter pilot training to meet urgent Southeast Asia requirements.

Buildup of student loads is being accelerated, officials said, so that by November of this year the total number of students in training at any one time will have increased from 53 to 76.

Annual rate of production will reach 285 trained pilots by November, with the majority from a conversion pilot course initiated last April.

The specially designed course is expected to produce an additional 160 helicopter pilots annually by qualifying already rated fixed-wing pilots as rotary-wing pilots.

Additional facilities to support the increase are programmed for November completion, and include an additional auxiliary helicopter training field near Stead AFB, Nev.

Army Announces New Commissioning Program

Army has screened records of active duty enlisted personnel and is inviting those who meet selection criteria to volunteer for immediate active duty as commissioned officers.

Program is limited to those holding reserve commission as captain or lieutenant. Company grade officers selected for active duty will be extended invitation through command channels to apply for this duty.

Maximum age and service as previously established will be waived for these officers.

Those who do not receive a letter must meet existing criteria as announced in DA Circular 601-12 to be eligible for active duty.

Saigon Port Facilities To Be Expanded 50%

The Navy announces that its Saigon Port construction in progress will increase harbor facilities there by 50 percent.

First phase construction, scheduled for use in November, includes LST slips, a landing ramp for LCM's or LCU's and wharf space to off-load four barges simultaneously.

Second phase construction calls for berth-building to serve cargo ships in the 20,000 ton class.

U.S. Servicemen Join Korean Culture Project

U.S. Military personnel and officials of Seoul National University, Korea, have collaborated on a "student host program," sponsored by the university's student guidance center. It is designed to introduce American military personnel throughout the Republic of Korea to customs, language and culture of the South Korean people.

Objective of the program is to have each student of the university represent the Korean people and, as hosts, treat as guests American soldiers and introduce Korean culture to them.

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.
Price 5 cents (single copy). Subscription Price: $2.50 per year; $3.25 additional for foreign mailing.